

ITEM 1. BROADBAND

- The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is currently underway and following a competitive procurement process, it is expected that a contract will be awarded in June 2017
- Correspondence recently received by the Chief Executive in Kilkenny County Council from Heather Humphries T.D Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional and Gaeltacht Affairs includes a request to nominate a senior manager, at Director Level to oversee the timely roll out of broadband in Kilkenny from a local authority perspective. Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services will take up this role in Kilkenny County Council.
- Each local authority is requested to appoint a full-time Broadband Officer to act as the liaison between the Local Authority and the winning bidder(s) in the NBC process. The Council will advance this in the course of the coming months.
- The Minister also intends to establish and convene meetings of two broadband Action Groups (Northern/Southern) in the NBP tender. The first meeting will take place on 16th September in Kilkenny Castle.
- The Minister has asked each local authority to identify 10-20 strategic connection points throughout the county that could be prioritised ahead of the full rollout of broadband. The Department has requested a list of identified premises and categories by the end of the first week in October.
- At the request of Eir a meeting will take place with the Area Engineers in Kilkenny County Council and Eir on Friday 9th September. Over the next 6 months Eir has prioritised 4 communities which require the installation of 150km of fibre on both pole and duct infrastructure. The locations are Kilkenny, Knocktopher, Mooncoin and Piltown.

ITEM 2.ROAD SAFETY PLAN 2015-2020

- The Council is liaising with Beat radio with a view to running an advertising road safety campaign between now and Christmas to target in particular young drivers.
- The meeting also agreed with the suggestion of exploring a joint launch and campaign between Kilkenny County Council and the Vintners Federation of Ireland in relation to the distribution of high viz jackets and vests in pubs around the county along with a safety message should be explored.

(a) 2009 School Safety Programme.

- The SPC2 recommended that Kilkenny County Council undertake a full audit of the schools having regard to the time that has elapsed since the school safety was implemented..

ITEM3. Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management CFRAM

- Draft flood risk management plans have been published for both the Nore and the Barrow. The OPW documents are on display in the Council offices in County Hall and in the Thomastown Area Office. The closing date for receipt of submissions is Friday 28th October.
- Kilkenny County Council will make a presentation as requested by the OPW at the Council meeting on 21st October and similar presentations will be made by Carlow and Wexford County Councils. Submissions on the plans can be made by the local authorities up to 21st November.

ITEM 4. PILOT COMMUNITY FLOOD RESILIENCE PROJECTS- THOMASTOW & GRAIGUENAMANAGH

- A total of 50 no.questionnaires were issued to owners of affected properties in Graiguenamanagh and 16 have been returned. In the case of Thomastown 100 questionnaires were issued and 13 have been returned. The closing date was 16th August and the slow response will delay the project. Flood Risk plans will come before Kilkenny County Council for adoption.

ITEM 5.Meeting with TII on 21/09/2016.

- The members recommended to the Corporate Policy Group (CPG) that 4 elected members (2 from Piltown MD and 1 from Kilkenny and Castlecomer MD) and a Council official attend at a forthcoming meeting with TII officials on 21/09/2016 which was requested by the Council.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mat Doran
Chairman

